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the mandible was furnished with a palpus, which is not the case in the family *Idoteidæ* as usually understood. As figured and described, it seems to be a form combining characters distinctive of two primary groups of crustacea, and it is strange Prof. Cope should not have seen in it "the type of a peculiar group of high rank." On account of the interest this little animal must excite, it is to be regretted that it was not more fully described, but it is stated that, "the specimens are in bad condition, having lost their limbs, egg-pouches and the distal portions of their antennæ." This is perhaps the most important sentence in the description. The parasite of the blind fish, a Lernæan, described and figured with egg-sacks similar to those of the species just mentioned, is interesting, not only in itself, but for its possible relations to the *Cœcidotea*. Has not the damaged Isopod been carelessly restored with some of the Lernæan's appendages, instead of having retained them from some Entomostracan progenitor by retardation of development?—S. I. SMITH.

ANTHROPOLOGY.

ANTIQUITY OF MAN IN AMERICA.—In the December number of this journal we made an abstract of a paper printed by the Philadelphia Academy, in which Mr. Berthoud gave an account of the relics of an early race of men. As the geological position of the relics has been questioned, further information is very desirable.

MICROSCOPY.

A DRYING CASE.—Mr. Wm. H. Walmsley has been using for years, in the preparation of his well known microscopical objects, a very convenient and useful drying case. This case is especially useful for hardening balsam mountings, drying tissues, etc. It is made of tin, heated with hot water and well ventilated, capable of drying one hundred specimens at once, and able to retain its heat for eight hours without attention. Microscopists can obtain it from James W. Queen & Co.

AN OBJECT CARRIER.—The object carrier usually furnished with the concentric glass stages is extremely satisfactory for studying mounted specimens, but not equally good for other work. It is unsuitable for a large stage plate, or for a heavy trough or com-